



City of Greensboro

NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

GASOLINE SAFETY AND STORAGE

The announcement yesterday that gasoline may be in short supply over the next few days or weeks has cause many people to purchase additional gas containers and stockpile these additional supplies. We have serious concerns that this action will subject citizens to potentially lethal conditions.

Vapors from gasoline are dangerous! Gasoline vapors are heavier than air; they flow invisibly along the ground and can ignite from a flame, spark, hot surface, or static electricity causing a shattering explosion. When you consider that one gallon of gasoline has the same explosive force as fourteen sticks of dynamite it should be apparent that the improper use or storage of this product is extremely dangerous. When using gasoline we offer the following tips for the safe handing and storage of gasoline:

- **Never use gasoline around a flame source. Be particularly aware of sources such as matches, cigarettes and pilot lights on stoves and water heaters.**
- **Only use gasoline outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.**
- **Don't transport gasoline in your car. A fiery explosion may result if there is a collision or if vapors escape.**
- **Never siphon gasoline by mouth! Even a few drops inhaled into the lungs may cause death.**

- **Never Store gasoline in the house or garage.**
- **If you must store gasoline, do so only in well-ventilated areas away from the house.**
- **Use only approved safety cans which have flame arrestors and pressure-release valves.**
- **Never use glass or plastic bottles for gasoline storage.**
- **Keep gasoline locked up when not in use. Always keep it out of reach of children.**
- **If gasoline is swallowed, do not induce vomiting. Seek medical attention immediately.**